

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1175
ANSWERED ON 24.07.2017**

TOURIST VISA FOR YOGA FOLLOWERS

1175. SHRI G.M. SIDDESHWARA:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to provide tourist visa to foreigners in view of their increasing interest in yoga;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and**
- (c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard ?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)**

(a) to (c): Government of India is providing e- Visa with 3 sub-categories i.e. e-Tourist Visa, e-Business Visa and e-Medical Visa.

Under e-Tourist Visa, the following activities are permitted:

“Recreation, sightseeing, casual visit to meet friends or relatives, and attending a short term yoga programme”.

The e-Visa requirement have also been liberalized and simplified recently. The window for application under e-Visa has been increased from 30 days to 120 days. The duration of stay in India under e-Visa has also been increased from 30 days to 60 days.
